



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois
Western Division*

*Michael D. Love
Assistant U.S. Attorney*

*308 West State Street - Room 300
Rockford, Illinois 61101*

*PH: (815) 987-4444
FAX: (815) 987-4236*

September 1, 2006

DIXON MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT TO DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ROCKFORD – PATRICK J. FITZGERALD, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; ROBERT D. GRANT, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and KENNETH T. LAAG, Postal Inspector-in-Charge of the Chicago Office of the United States Postal Service, today made the following announcement:

DAVID E. HEWELT, 61 (DOB: 9/16/44), 143 Fall Rd., Dixon, Illinois, pled guilty today in federal court in Rockford to distributing child pornography transported and shipped across state lines via computer. Hewelt had been charged on December 13, 2005, by indictment with distributing child pornography and with possession of child pornography in October and November of 2005.

In pleading guilty, Hewelt admitted that on October 26, 2005, he knowingly distributed child pornography over the internet. In particular, Hewelt admitted that he used the internet to distribute a video depicting a pre-pubescent girl engaging in sexually explicit conduct with an adult male. According to the plea agreement, Hewelt posted the child pornography on an internet newsgroup. In pleading guilty, Hewelt also admitted to possessing other images of child pornography on his computer. Hewelt admitted that he had downloaded the images to his computer from the internet.

Sentencing for Hewelt will be conducted on December 15, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. Hewelt faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years in prison and maximum potential sentence of up to 20 years in prison, as well as a fine of up to \$250,000. The actual sentence will be determined by a United States District Court Judge, guided by the United States Sentencing Guidelines.

The case was investigated by the Chicago Federal Bureau of Investigation's Innocent Images Task Force, with assistance from the Rockford Office of the FBI and the Lee County Sheriff's Department. The Innocent Images Task Force is comprised of FBI Special Agents, Inspectors from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Investigators from the Cook County Sheriff's Police Department and Detectives from the Palos Heights, Illinois Police Department. The case is being prosecuted in federal court by Rockford Assistant United States Attorney Michael D. Love.

#####